

**POLS 70 Course Outline as of Spring 2011****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: POLS 70 Title: CALIF STATE &amp; LOCAL GOVT

Full Title: California State &amp; Local Government

Last Reviewed: 1/28/2002

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Organization, operation and politics of state, county, municipal and special district governments in California. Analysis of various issues facing the state, including education, public finance, environment, planning, and socio-economic conditions.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Completion of ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Organization, operation & politics of state, county, municipal & special district governments in California. Analysis of various issues facing the state, including education, public finance, environment, planning, and socio/economic conditions. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Completion of ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:



- C) Political history
- D) California today
- II. Campaigns, political parties, and elections
  - A) The campaign process
  - B) The election process
  - C) The candidates
  - D) The voters
- III. Interest Groups and Lobbyists
  - A) What are interest groups and lobbyists
  - B) How interest groups and lobbyists function
  - C) An evaluation of interest groups and lobbyists
- IV. The Media in California Politics
  - A) The history of the media in California
  - B) The changing media
  - C) An evaluation of media in California
- V. The Executive Branch in California
  - A) The powers of the governor
  - B) The California bureaucracy
  - C) An evaluation of the executive branch in California
- VI. The Legislature in California
  - A) The Assembly
  - B) The Senate
  - C) Making legislation
  - D) An evaluation of the California legislature
- VII. Judicial System in California
  - A) The local courts
  - B) The higher courts in California
  - C) The election of judges
  - D) An evaluation of the judicial system in California
- VIII. Local Government in California
  - A) The duties and structure of local government
  - B) The funding of local government
  - C) The relationship between local and state government
  - D) An evaluation of local government
- IX. Tax Policy in California
  - A) Where California gets its money
  - B) Tax policy
  - C) An evaluation of the tax policy in California
- X. Education Policy in California
  - A) The quality of California education
  - B) Educational financing
  - C) California education in transition
- XI. The Washington Connection
  - A) What California gets from Washington
  - B) Californians in Congress
- XII. Politics in the Golden State
  - A) The past and future
  - B) Challenges facing California people and government

**Assignment:**

1. Read and study appropriate chapters in textbook

2. Regular attendance and extensive notetaking in class is expected and assumed
3. Preparation for three in-class, closed book, no-notes scantron and essay examinations

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Essay exams, Term papers	Writing 20 - 80%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%
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**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None	Skill Demonstrations 0 - 0%
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**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice	Exams 20 - 80%
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**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None	Other Category 0 - 0%
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**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT & POLITICS ANNUAL, 2000-2001, California Journal Press 2000.

John L. Korey, CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT, 3rd ed., 2002, Houghton Mifflin Co.

Peter Schrag, PARADISE LOST, New Press, 1998.